

BY JOSEPH HATTON.

the light of the world. The Country in Town. Thousands of intelligent and educated people live in London, who appreciate their privileges. Country cousins know most of metropolitan shows. They come to town to see the sights and see the Academy exhibitions. Mr. Londoner has been insisting on the House. You might fairly have expected that an exhibition of the work of George Frederic Watts, the greatest artist of our time and one of the greatest painters, a patriot in his selfish devotion to the nation's education, and a genius even in the estimation of France, would naturally expect that a collection such a man's finest works would have attracted all London. Not a bit of it. The highest art, it is to be feared, appeals to the chosen few. As a rule we have noble characteristics. We have supreme intelligence, a peace, and the foremost practical civilisation; but as yet an appreciation of poetic subtleties on canvas is not one of our endowments. On the continent a French or Italian artist would have enjoyed the privilege of patronage that great exhibition of his work would have been thronged. If it were not for strangers in our gates, the New Gallery would be desolate. The upper and the critical crew of intellectuals as our "smart people" the place on private view day, to see the pictures, but they need not see their names in the chronicles of newspapers. On several visits to the Watts exhibition I have found the gallery fairly attended, but chiefly by country visitors. It has been a pleasure to note their reverent admiration of the artist's most symbolism in London. "Love and Life," and "Hope," their special observation of that fine example of what may be "realism in idealism," the labelled "For he had great powers."

"Love and Death."
"I paint ideas, not objects,"
"Yes said, "I paint stars of a

A FATHER'S NEGLIGENCE
Edward Dean, 53, Blacksmiths' street, was charged, on a warrant, with neglecting to provide for his children, the 12-year-old son, Charles, and Emma, all inmates of the St. Pancras Guardians, and the last 7 months prisoner had been in at Peckwater-st., St. Pancras, occupying a room on the second floor. All months he had been in and during that time he neglected his children, who were treated and neglected his children. He frequently thrashed them and them for long periods—on one occasion for 2 days—without light, fire, or food. In fact he was in the habit of leaving at 9 a.m. and returning late at night in a state of intoxication.—6 months.

A man named Peter Barnes, a employe on the Dublin, Wicklow and Wexford Railway, was run over and killed by an engine. The accident occurred close to Bray Station.

At Bray, Annie Gaffney, housewife, 25, was charged with having, on Dec. 17, murdered her illegitimate child. The coroner jury had, on the medical evidence returned a verdict of wilful murder against the accused.

2 weeks at bed-time, using warm water
lanoline pine tar soap; dry well. Daily
to the hair and its roots some of this
ment: Hydrarg ammoni chlor, 10 grains

HOLLISBORTH.—Continue to use the
tion; eat plenty of salt with your food
ounce of this medicine in 2 ounces of
after each meal. Tinct ferri. sug. 8 drs

C. E. EGERTON.—His full biography remains to be written.

still acted as Colonial Governors, 23 have
in the Diplomatic Service, and 14
been Mayors and County Council

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**OF ALL BOOKSELLERS, BOOKSTALLS, AND NEWS-
STANDS, AND FROM**

JOHN DICKS, 212, STRAND, LONDON.

[illegible]

THE LOSS OF A WIFE.

The Lord Chief Justice and a specially jury in the Queen's Bench heard the suit of Duncombe v. the London Street Tramways Co., an action under Lord Campbell's Act, brought by a widow to recover on behalf of herself and her children damages for the loss of his wife, keeper of a coffee shop.—Plaintiff was an employé at Doultun's pottery, and lived at Drummond st., Hampstead-rd., and as the result of the accident which gave rise to the action, and which, it was said, was caused by defendants' negligence, he had been deprived of the services of his wife in the carrying on of his business and left with 2 children, a girl of 6 and a boy of 9. It appears that on April 7 last plaintiff, his wife—who was 28 years old—and his son were in the Hampstead-rd., and

HAILED A PASSING VEHICLES.

The boy against several local grocers selling as Demerara sugar an article not the nature and quality demanded was again before Mr. Bros. at North London—Mrs. Sargent, one of defendants, who said she sold what she thought was pure sugar, which she afterwards found or "best crystals," was discharged on payment of 2s. costs.—Another defendant said he ordered from the wholesale dealer Demerara sugar, received it as such, and if it was adulterated sugar was deceived.—For 6 of defendants it was argued that since they sold sugar was not "to the prejudice of the purchaser."—Adjourned.

The Duchess of Connaught has promised to lay the foundation stone of a new Female Hospital for Soldier Wives at Aldershot.

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OUR OMNIBUS

PIPER PAN.

Mr. Robert Newman is certainly one of the most enterprising musical managers of the day. Not contented with Saturday evening promenade concerts, Sunday afternoon oratorio performances, the indefatigable impresario has arranged for a series of high-class symphony concerts to be given at Queen's Hall on Saturday afternoons, beginning Jan. 30, when the programme will be partly devoted to Schubert. The orchestra of 100 well-known instrumentalists will be directed by Mr. Henry J. Wood, whose name is a guarantee for the excellent work that may be expected during the season.

At the second of these concerts, Feb. 6, the first symphony of the Prussian composer, Anton Arensky, will be produced. The work was written as far back as 1882, but has not yet been heard in London. Novelties, if good, are always acceptable. I hope, however, that some by British composers may be included in the new scheme at Queen's Hall.

"La Belle France" does not appear to have been any better off than London regarding the productions of operatic novelties last year. There was only one new work brought to the Grand Opera, Paris, and two at the Opera Comique. This is surprising, considering that both these theatres are subsidised and are rent free.

It is stated that Madame Calvé's Marguerite in Gounod's "Faust" differs from that of any other impersonation of the rôle. The distinguished prima donna stands when singing the famous "King of Thule," and, during the jewel song, she places the casket on a table, round which she dances with girlish joy, instead of kneeling down by the conventional chair.

Herr Stanislaus Wurm has three charming Viennese orchestras available for various fashionable and other functions. They are designated the "Red," "White," and "Blue" bands; but whether as a graceful compliment to our national colours, I cannot say. The White Viennese musicians, conducted by Herr Stanislaus Wurm, go to Bexhill-on-Sea for five months this year; and the Red instrumentalists, conducted by Herr Moritz Wurm, are already engaged for the entire Folkstone season, beginning May 20.

Madame Melba was not successful as Brunhilde in "Siegfried" at New York, and threw up the part after one performance. The Australian prima donna is still suffering from the effects of influenza, and is likely to terminate her engagement in America, and to return to Europe very shortly.

"The Mikado" is being transferred into French for performance at Brussels. I believe that it will be the first time that one of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas has been sung in French, although they have been frequently performed in many other languages.

Handel's "Samson" will be sung at the National Sunday League Concert at Queen's Hall on Sunday evening, Jan. 24. The soloists are Madame Zippora Monteith, Madame Belle Cole; Mr. G. Emlin Jones, Mr. W. W. Miller, and Mr. Walker Morrow. The chorus and orchestra will, of course, be under the able direction of Dr. Churchill Sibley.

A lecture on "Opera during the reign of Queen Victoria" will be given by Mr. Hermann Klein before the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts on Thursday evening, Jan. 22. Klein is a well-known authority on matters musical; his lecture is sure to be entertaining.

Dr. Bridge is composing a short choral cantata for the Chester Musical Festival in July. It will be the only choral novelty produced at the meeting.

The ladies of New York have been greatly grieved at the sacrifice made by M. Jean de Reszke in shaving off his moustache for the sake of the parts of "Siegfried." I understand, however, that his poetic appearance and splendid rendering of the rôle have reconciled the fair sympathisers to the alteration in the great tenor's every-day appearance.

Amongst novelties promised for the Birmingham Festival are a secular cantata by Mr. Sumnerell, and a requiem by Professor Stanford. The latter work seems rather a gloomy subject for a festival taking place during the Diamond Jubilee year; but no doubt the national value of Dr. Stanford's composition will atone for that.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

Amongst the exhibits at the Zoological Society's meeting at Haverstock on Tuesday last, was a photograph, taken when only two days old, of a young anteater, which had been born in a private zoological garden at Stuttgart, Germany, but had been accidentally killed by his mother lying upon it and suffocating it. It appears that this is the first instance on record of the animal breeding in captivity, although, as we know, from observing individuals in the Zoo, they thrive well and appear to be quite happy in such a condition.

The anteater is one of the most extraordinary of all mammals, and with its long slender face, upright mane, immense bushy tail, and peculiar markings, presents a most remarkable appearance. Its food consists entirely of ants and their eggs and larvae, and these it obtains by scratching open their nests and capturing the insects with its long sticky tongue as they try to escape. As one would suppose, after a close inspection of it, the anteater is, as a rule, an inoffensive animal, but when cornered it is said to be a most formidable fighter, and possessing a very tough skin and hard skull it can withstand a great deal of punishment before it is vanquished. Its habitat is South and Central America, but on account of its nocturnal habits it is not often seen.

At the same meeting the unfortunate cerastes viper, which had been adorned with false horns of hedgehog spines and had died in the gardens, was shown in spirits. On examination of the specimen it was found that

one of the spikes was driven right through the skull, and was protruding some distance through the roof of the mouth. The secretary, in his remarks, repudiated the suggestion that the society was a party to the manufacture of this monstrosity, or that it in any way encouraged such depictions.

There was also exhibited a very fine set of photographs of a specimen of the rough-skinned snake, from Africa, whose head certainly does not measure more than an inch in circumference, swallowing an egg quite three times as big round. The mouth of this creature stretches to an extraordinary degree, and completely envelops the egg, which is not broken until it passes down the throat, when it comes in contact with pointed vertebrae, and is cut open. The contents of the egg is swallowed, and the shell ejected as is allowed.

It has been thought that illustrations of little-known animals will give additional interest to this column, and it is proposed in future to insert a small cut each week of the more noticeable animals that come under my notice. The first of the series will be the Indian Dial-bird, of which a



THE DIAL BIRD.

pair arrived at the Zoo on Jan. 6, where only five others have been exhibited since 1863. The Dial-bird rivals any other songster in its own country, and it is kept as a pet in cages on this account; but it is an interesting bird from another point of view. Its build is somewhat like that of a very pugacious disposition. It has had habit of the bird has proved of advantage to the native bird-catchers in capturing its brethren. A tame bird is taken to the haunts of the wild ones and set at liberty, when a fight immediately ensues. During the combat the wild bird is so much occupied that it falls an easy captive to the bird-catcher.

I have received a very interesting story of the execution of an elephant in India from a correspondent of Fetterlane, E.C., but it is unfortunately too long to print here verbatim. The substance of it, however, bears out the remarks I made in last week's issue as to the animosity this animal cherishes to those who in any way cause it annoyance. In this instance the elephant had been robbed of its "chapaties," or large cake, by two or three different attendants, each of whom was killed by the beast when opportunity presented itself. For showing its revenge in this manner it was deemed advisable to put the elephant to death, and the execution was carried out by means of rifle and revolver shots.

The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens during the week ending Jan. 19 include a greater black-backed gull, two four-toed anteaters, two buzzards, and two carrion crows.

THE ACTOR.

During the past week Mr. Gordon Craig has been appearing at one of the Croydon theatres with a company as Julian Gray in "The New Comedy." The part, I should say, would suit him excellently well. He seems very desirous of making progress in his profession, and does not let the grass grow under his feet. I notice a steady progress in the work. Good as was his performance in the "Kiln-dick," his representation of the King Edward in "Richard III." was even better. As the son of Miss Ellen Terry he must ever be an object of interest to the public.

On Thursday next the Olympie will become once more a home of melodrama. One regretted for the sake of the art and of the money spent on the production—the failure of "The Pilgrim's Progress" at this theatre. But unquestionably it is for melodrama that the Olympie, as we now have it, is made. It is too big for anything but the declamatory and the spectacular. Shades of acting are lost in a play of this size, which is to be shown there, and their places taken by drama of the simplest and most forcible kind, such as, I trust, "A Free Pardon" will prove.

I threw out last week a hint to the effect that the rôle of the Vicar in "Olivia" at the Lyceum might be played this time by Mr. Hermann Vezin. The engagement of that actor for the part should add greatly to the attractiveness of the revival. Miss Terry as Olivia is always delightful, but a sympathetic Vicar is essential. It is too often forgotten that the rôle of the Vicar is a useful interpreter of this rôle in W. G. Wills's play. There have, of course, other Dr. Primroses, because there have been several other dramatisations of Goldsmith's famous story. But "Olivia" takes the cake.

I sympathise with that correspondent of "The Globe" who has been protesting against a (possibly) unbusinesslike representation of Nelson and Lady Hamilton on the London or any other stage. It is not so much that the impersonators of those two celebrities ought to look their parts, but that, in fact, to realise the rôle of the Nelson and Lady Hamilton of the well-known authentic portraits; it is that the great seaman and his "enchanted" ought to be portrayed by the dramatist (as we hope they will be) exactly as they were—without any modification of fact for the purpose of making them "sympathetic."

What a dance Mr. Penley has been leading the paragraphists in regard to his next production at the Globe! Only the other day it was stated with every appearance of confidence that the new play, written by Mr. Penley and Mr. Murray Messers, "Shine and Shine," would produce there a new play written by themselves. Now we are assured that Mr. Penley has not let the theatre, but will himself revive there a farce by Mr. Warren, called "My Bonnet Boy." The truth is, that many of the paragraph announcements we read

are premature; they take too much for granted. There is nothing so uncertain as theatrical engagements.

Circumstances alter cases. Mr. Wilson Barrett announced the imminent production of "The Daughters of Babylon." He was quite sincere in so announcing; but, all of a sudden, the public hearing of the proposed withdrawal of "The Sign of the Cross," began to flock to the theatre again in shoals, and practically have forced Mr. Barrett to alter his arrangements. In the same way, though the last night of "The Mikado" was advertised, an unexpected demand for seats might still further delay the production of Sir A. C. Mackenzie's comic opera.

I note that the Grand Theatre, Fulham, is rapidly approaching completion. It occupies an admirable site near Putney Bridge—within a stone's throw of the gates of Fulham Palace. I understand, by the way, that the elegy and church people of the district are very friendly to the new playhouse, which will have in Mr. A. F. Henderson an experienced and genial manager.

OLD IZAAK.

The Thames is getting into fair order for winter fishing, and the condition of the water at the moment will be found quite respectable. The snow and sudden changes of temperature have put a stop to angling almost everywhere, and there is consequently little of interest to record. Jack, perch, roach, and chub ought now to yield the angler sport, and will doubtless do so if the clerk of the weather permits.

Mr. Cormac O'Dowd had a fair take of chub near Windsor on Monday last, and his two best fish (3½lb. and 2½lb. respectively) were shown at the Piscatorial Society's meeting. Hone, of Staines, got several nice perch last week, the largest scaling about 1½lb., but beyond these there are practically no takes to report.

One of the large reservoirs of the West Middlesex Water Works Company at Barnes is to be netted on Monday by the Thames Angling Preservation Society. The netting will be conducted by a firm of builders at King's Cross is so well lighted inside that passengers can see to read in any part. The wheels are also furnished with rubber-tyres, greatly to the diminution of jolting, while the ventilation is much improved. If the companies refuse to adopt this model, private proprietors would gain greatly by doing so. Public patronage is certain to be bestowed on those conveniences which most promote public convenience.

It is certainly something of a scandal that whereas commissioned and non-commissioned officers in the British Army can obtain rewards for good service, warrant officers are left out in the cold. Probably their omission was due to oversight when framing the Royal Warrant of 1881. Be that as it may, no time should be lost in placing these gallant men on the same footing as other officers; they are certainly not less deserving of reward.

Another Army grievance of a genuine character is brought to my notice by a soldier who served throughout the brilliant Chitral campaign, and went through a lot of hard fighting, from which he did not escape with impunity. Neither he nor his comrades have yet received the promised medal; when complaint is made, the stereotyped official reply is "the lists of those entitled are not yet completed." But I make very sure that they would have been completed long ago had any royal prizes taken part in the campaign; in that case, Lord Wolseley would have long since been recognised as having up to the hilt earned his medals.

The Bermondsey Brothers had a capital show of fish at the Woolpack, Bermondsey-st., after their outing last week. Mr. J. Wigley, sen., and Mr. J. Smith being the first of the successful anglers.

The annual meeting of the Greenham Anglers comes off on Tuesday next at Masons' Hall Tavern. The society's rules seem to have been altered of late in a manner not altogether pleasing to some of its members. Delegation to some other body, beyond the sphere of an angling club. The Greenham, however, have decided to bar any fish, big or little, caught on a Sunday, from taking a prize; although ready to applaud its captor, and delighted to see the fish.

Something may be said on both sides of the question, but if prizes of any kind are awarded they ought in common fairness to be of two classes, viz., for fish caught on Tuesdays shown at the weekly meeting, and for fish caught on any other day of the week shown at the other day of the week and catch them. An ichthyological inquisition (even by Greenham professors) to qualify an angler for a prize medal or membership of a society can in these days hardly be seriously thought of.

The Central Association visit to the Anchor and Hope Anglers at the Duke of Kent, Old Kent-rd., over which Mr. W. J. Wade presided on Monday last, was a pronounced success, representatives from 25 clubs attending. Mr. D. Davis was in the vice chair, the hon. secretary being Mr. F. Martin, their courteous secretary, never ceased in his attention to the guests.

Further sums have been received from various clubs by Messrs. Gurney and Wade in aid of the Rivers Restoration and Preservation Fund. May I urge secretaries and others to send in quickly any amounts in hand, so that when the committee meet again the accounts for the last year may be closed and a final distribution made?

The monthly smoking concert of the Hoxton Brothers is to be held at the Strand, E.C., adjoining the Strand Station of the North London Railway, comes off on Monday next. Mr. G. H. Shepherd presides, and ladies are cordially invited. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The Hoxton Brothers' entertainments are usually well attended, and the present is not likely to be an exception to the rule.

The Anglers' Association met at the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell, E.C., on Monday last, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. H. Beckwith, Y.P. There was a prolonged discussion in reference to the renting of waters, and the matter was eventually handed over to the committee to deal with. The application of the Maldon Anglers for the issue of privilege tickets to them from that station was promised to be brought under the notice of the Anglers' Association, and a resolution was passed congratulating Sir

Wm. Birt on the distinguished honour conferred upon him by Her Majesty, after which the meeting closed in the customary manner. Delegates from 54 clubs attended.

GENERAL CHATTER.

Although market gardens often perfume the surrounding air in a disagreeable manner, it comes as a surprise to me to learn that this malodorous industry is so common. Nor do I quite believe that statement, although vouched for by a learned gentleman in the North, who claims to have made exhaustive inquiry into the subject. He alleges that carburetted hydrogen is thrown off by the decaying vegetable matter, and that gas, unquestionably injurious to the health of men, women, and even children permanently employed at market gardens, as a rule, the pictures of robust health? Perhaps the gas loses its harmfulness when mixed with overwhelming quantities of pure air.

It is a mistake to suppose, as some do, that the word "nigger" is derived from the name of the great African river upon which a British expedition is now advancing. "Nigger" is a corruption of "negro," the name formerly applied to all the black races of Africa, and not by Anglo-Indians, when alluding to the indigenous population.

The amenities of politeness appear to be thoroughly appreciated by the members of the Stafford Town Council. At the last meeting of that august body, one gentleman called another "a wilful perverter of the truth, and an incompetent fool," while the assailed worthy retorted by asserting that his calumniation "has less breeding than my dog, and it is a mongrel." Pretty talk, truly, for municipal authorities to indulge in. They ought to set good examples in all things.

At last, there seems some little likelihood of the great "bus" companies being compelled by circumstances to provide their vehicles with better illumination. A pattern just introduced by a firm of builders at King's Cross is so well lighted inside that passengers can see to read in any part. The wheels are also furnished with rubber-tyres, greatly to the diminution of jolting, while the ventilation is much improved. If the companies refuse to adopt this model, private proprietors would gain greatly by doing so. Public patronage is certain to be bestowed on those conveniences which most promote public convenience.

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intend to bring in another Employers' Liability Bill. That question at present is in a very unsatisfactory condition, and ought to be settled at once one way or the other, and I hope it will be settled in some way that will enable the workman to get compensation, or his widow to get compensation, in all cases of accidents.

But there are lots of cases that are pure accidents, not caused by negligence in any way, and these have never yet been taken into consideration by any Employers' Liability Bill. Certainly the one lately abandoned by the last Radical Administration would not have met these cases, even if it had become law, as it was when first sent up to the House of Lords. Here is a case in point.

Suppose a painter was working at the top of a ladder and the ladder broke, and he fell, and was killed. Under the Act as it stands at present, if the widow could prove negligence on the part either of the employer, or foreman, she would get compensation. Under the Act brought in by the late Government, she would also have got compensation if the accident had been caused by negligence of a fellow-workman.

But suppose it was nobody's negligence, and that the poor fellow simply slipped and fell to the ground and was killed. In that case she could not claim compensation of anyone, but she would be a widow just as much in the latter case as in the former, and the children would be orphans just the same.

If, however, the man I have mentioned had been at the time of the accident in the employ of one of those firms that are "contracted out," or in other words, have an "insurance system," his widow would have got exactly the same compensation in the latter case as she would have got in the former, and that without the trouble and expense, and, worst of all, the great uncertainty of going to law about it.

Of course I know, as we all know, that it would never do for a body of men, or even one man, to be forced to "contract out of the Act," but Lord Dudley's amendment did away with the slightest possibility of anything of that kind. It only allowed "contracting out" when two-thirds of the men voting by secret ballot approved it, and when the employers contributed not less than one-third to the insurance scheme, and I for the life of me cannot see anything unfair or unjust in that.

MR. WHEELER.

No doubt the mere mention of touring at this time of year may appear most ridiculous to my readers. A matter, I for one am no butterfly rider. Cycling, however, is a different case. There are dry roads and sunshine and there are hard frosts and frost. Your real enthusiast of the wheel cares little for atmospheric conditions; so let me say that, no sooner had Jack Frost made his appearance, than I mounted my machine and wended my way out of town towards the south coast. The frost-bitten roads to Redhill fascinated me, although I started for a day's run, the keen air and easy going tempted me into riding through to Brighton. A kind friend took me in and, let me add, made me comfortable for the night. When I awoke the barometer was high, the thermometer low, the roads hard, and a stark sun shone gleaming. Why take the early train up to town, I thought? So I didn't. An east wind was blowing. I bid my kind friends adieu, and, mounting, wheeled Home way.

The merry breeze helped me along through Streatham, on to Lancing and into Worthing. The sun shone out and made belief spring had come. Few, indeed, were the wheelers I met on my way; they were mostly ladies, excepting here and there a mechanic with his tools slung over his back. Over hard roads I sped along to the ferry at Littlehampton, where I waited for some time. Once across I was soon on my way to Bognor, the wind driving me along. At Bognor a meal was most welcome, and an easy run into Chichester gave me time to catch an express back to town. This is the charm of cycling—not to know whether one is bound nor where one will rest for the night.

A great deal of thanks is due to Mr. Harry J. Swindley of "The Cyclist," for his efforts to solve the problem of carrying bicycles in ordinary passenger luggage vans. The London, Chatham, and Dover Railway are not world renowned for their progressiveness—in fact, I believe they bear a bad name among their patrons—but, at least, they have been the first to rise to the occasion, as far as bicycles are concerned. An interesting experiment was essayed last week with a train in which a number of machines were slung and fixed according to Mr. Swindley's ideas, and, so far as I can gather, there is a likelihood of the idea being taken up permanently on this line. If a success, other railway companies will follow suit. The question of carrying cycles has long been a very vexed one. I remember, on the last of last year, a train to Canterbury on this very line only having room for my bicycle in the luggage van of the particular train in which I wished to travel.

A correspondent wrote me last week from the neighbourhood of Pinner, Middlesex, asking whether readers of "The People" would care to combine and form a club, whose headquarters should be an exceptionally convenient house and grounds in that district. My correspondent writes me that the house is surrounded by eleven acres of garden, comprising an orchard, tennis lawn, &c., the whole being well timbered. Wheelers would be able to ride down through the pleasant lanes, and, on arriving, to obtain tea or dinner, and to take away with them fresh fruit and flowers. The idea strikes me as excellent, and I should be glad to hear if any of my readers would be willing to undertake the organisation of such a club, in which case I should be happy to put them in communication with my first correspondent, who owns the house and grounds.

This idea of country headquarters for clubs is one which I have long had in my mind. It seems to me that some club, such as the Cyclists' Touring Club, for instance, could have bought or rented a number of houses in different districts, from

quented by cyclists, where sleeping accommodation, and simple-cerved meals could have been obtained. These quarters could be minded by one servant, to whom notice could have been sent if any number of visitors were expected. If connected with metropolitan cycling clubs, these quarters could be chosen in the neighbourhood of the following places:—Borham, Brighthelm, Selsey Bill, Haslemere, Newbury, High Wycombe, Oxford, Hemel Hempstead, Newport Pagnell, Hatfield, Biggleswade, Bishop Stortford, Woburn, Brentford, Felkistow, Rochester, Margate, Maidstone, Dover. With this programme of routes Saturday to Monday tours would be a matter of great convenience to clubs, entailing the very minimum of expense. Arrangements could easily be made to, whereby clubs alternately visited each locality. At different times I have mooted the idea, and it has invariably met with approval. If any of my readers have suggestions on this subject, I shall be glad to hear from them.

There are those among cyclists who are for ever striving to obtain notoriety. The latest in America is the record for the greatest mileage covered during the season. One, E. Roth, of Chicago, has compiled a record of 24,310 miles during 1896. At least the American cycle journals say so. He rode 340 days out of the 565, and on no less than 140 of these he rode over 100 miles. Presumably, he rode 25 days out of the year. This is carrying cycling to absurdity, indeed, for pleasure could not have been the motive power. This carrying of long distances is an extraordinary feature in the bicycling fever. The pleasure of a spin is entirely lost, scenery is unheeded, and the milestone is apparently the only object which catches the madman's eye. Luckily this is a phase which, up to now, is not very prevalent in England.

MADAME.

Rumour is busy just now in the world of dress and fashion. There is a whisper abroad that appears to be mainly ground that our skirts are to lengthen in the near future. Let us hope that this does not mean that we are again to be cumbered with long trains for our ordinary walking gowns, with their attendant misery of holding up, or, still worse, trailing on the ground. Oh! the sorry signs one has seen in the case of long walking trains. Long may the short walking skirt flourish and abound amongst us.

As present fashions stand, the rule obtains that walking skirts are to keep well clear of the ground. The length of other skirts is in a great measure determined by the occasion for which they are intended to be worn. A skirt, the suitable length for walking or cycling, would look very much out of place at an afternoon reception, whereas for dreary occasions it is permissible for the skirt to rest lightly on the ground at the back. Dance dresses, as a rule, are moderately short.

The tea jacket has become quite an important garment. Nowadays many young matrons adopt it in preference to the more costly and more voluminous tea gown. Of course this dainty garment is to be frequently met with made of the richest fabrics, but it is also to be seen in a very stylish form too, of quite simple materials. After all, the simplest of materials, if well chosen and carefully put together, may be made to appear quite as stylish as the costliest.

A tea jacket comes well within the powers of the house-dressmaker, of course, in order to turn it out successfully, it will need time, care, and the taking of a little trouble. Amateur work is so often spoiled by hurrying it through. The best professional dressmakers will give close attention to the smallest details. As a rule, the amateur considers these quite beneath her notice, and, therefore, the result fails to satisfy. Many a good piece of stuff is wasted by careless cutting. I know I have often given these homely hints before, but there are some things that need be said many times before they are taken in.

Simple materials are chosen for a tea jacket they ought to be good of their kind. Nun's veiling, a fine make of cashmere, and other soft woollens in pale shades of colour make up charmingly for this purpose. A tea jacket I met with the other day struck me as being simple and easy to make, as well as pretty and becoming.

The material is a soft make of nun's veiling. The colour is that charming shade of pale blue, that in some lights has a green tinge through it. The upper part of the jacket is formed of a deep yoke piece, tucked all over with tiny tucks, placed quite close to each other. This gives a pretty ruffled effect to the yoke. The loose full jacket is cut in one with a rather long basque, and is set to the edge of the yoke in close gathers.

The loose full sleeves come to about half-way between the elbows and the wrists. The finishing touch is given to the jacket by pretty trimmings of lace and ribbon. A deep frill of rather fine cream lace is placed round the edge of the yoke and forms full epaulettes over the shoulders. The high neck band is composed of folds of pale pink and blue ribbon, headed by a full ruffle of lace, with looped bows of the two colours at each side. The waist fulness is gathered in with a girle of the ribbon in both colours, tied with loops and long ends. The sleeves are edged with a ruffle of lace, with loops of the two colours through it.

The fashion of trimming day as well as evening skirts is advancing upon us with leaps and bounds. Hitherto we have been satisfied to lavish elaborate trimmings on the bodice of our gowns. Now fashion decrees that our skirts are also to be decorated. Simple lines of braid are given place to elaborate patterns outlined with silk cord, two colours sometimes being used with rich effect—bronze and blue, black and gold, purple and pale heliotrope, being some of the fashionable combinations. In some cases each seam of the skirt is braided, the pattern being carried round the hem and over the front or side breadth to form a panel. A braided pattern to correspond appears on the bodice.

A dainty evening gown is composed of fine black net over a slip or underskirt of scarlet silk. The net skirt is slightly gathered at the waist, and is



closely to the figure above, with a moderate width at the foot. In length it just reaches the ground. The underskirt is finished on the inside of the hem with a frill of the scarlet silk. Four bands of scarlet velvet baby ribbon trim the foot of the net skirt. Each band is placed a little apart.

The bodice is simple, but very pretty and becoming. It is arranged in full gathers back and front over a lining of scarlet silk, the top of the low-cut bodice being trimmed with a rather broad band of scarlet velvet ribbon, headed by a soft frill of lace. Upright looped bows of the velvet ribbon are placed on each shoulder. The sleeves are made in long double puffs of net over the coloured silk lining. The deep folded waistband is of scarlet velvet, fastening at one side in a looped bow.

A fashionable afternoon bodice for a gown is of pale fawn-coloured cloth. The deep-pointed revers are of black velvet, trimmed with a line of sparkling jet. The plainly-fitting sleeves



are finished at the top with full double puffs, arranged frill-wise. The high neckband is of black velvet, with bows at the sides. The top of the band is trimmed with a soft frill of black chiffon. The deep-folded waistband is of black velvet. The vest is of pale pink silk, in soft full gathers. The pink velvet in combination with the pale tints of the fawn cloth and pink vest has a very happy effect.

The L. and S.W. Railway dividend will be at the rate of 8½ per cent. per annum, giving 2½ per cent. for the whole year on the deferred stock, and carrying forward a balance of £24,805.

Miss Beatty, plaintiff in the recent action against Dr. Cullingworth, is by no means satisfied with the decision given in the Appeal Court, and will carry her case to the House of Lords.

FOR £13 13s.
YOU CAN PURCHASE A
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Manufactured with care and scientific accuracy,
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See 14, 14d. Box containing 14 Pills.

JACK ALLROUND.

SHALL COCAINER Cakes and RICE—As they can be made in exactly the same way, I give them both together to save space. For ingredients to 10 lbs. of flour, 4 lbs. of sugar, 2 lbs. of butter, 1 lb. of eggs, 1 lb. of cream of tartar, 1 lb. of carbonate of soda, 1 lb. of ground or grated cocainer, and a little salt. Mix the cream of tartar and soda with the flour, all of which should be perfectly dry; sift them together once or twice to ensure thorough mixing; cream the butter and sugar together, as I have frequently described, and when creamed add the eggs, beating them in, one by one. When these are all well incorporated, add the flour, cocainer, and salt, and bake in small, round hoops, papered round the side. The rice cakes are made by substituting rice for cocainer. Those who are fond of cocainer flavour often omit 1 lb. of flour and use 1 lb. of the ground nut in place of 1 lb. of the ground rice, and dust a little cocainer on the top of each cake. Bake in a sound, but not too hot, oven.

A BLACK STAIN FOR BROWNING—Furniture—Some of my correspondents wish to brownish chairs, &c., which have been previously stained and polished to represent mahogany, walnut, and other woods. This is never so easy a business as to brown white wood never before stained. In fact, those who want to change a brown wood or any varnished wood into black or ebony I should advise a black stain, and not the brown stain, and most likely method to arrive at a satisfactory result. In any case, the old varnish must be got rid of. This may be done by means of hot water, in which plenty of washing soda has been dissolved, alternating—when the wood is dry—with a good rubbing of glass paper, the two processes repeated as often as necessary till all trace of varnish and the filling of the pores with a former stain has been rubbed and washed away and the wood left thoroughly dry. To brown or stain wood black, make your stain with 1 lb. of logwood chips, boiled in 2 quarts of water for an hour, brush the hot decoction over the wood, let it dry, then give a second coat, and repeat the process a third time, always working the logwood liquor hot. When the third coat has dried, dissolve 1 lb. of green copperas in 1 quart of hot water, and as soon as the copperas is all dissolved, brush it over the work. This, when dry, ought to give a strong intense black. When staining it is best if your work in the sun, but if sun cannot be had, stand it in water away from the fire; you will spoil it if you put it near the fire, or if you attempt putting on any coat of stain before the former coat is quite dry. Neglect of these details is a constant reason of failure or unsatisfactory work. Before polishing the work a very thin coat of glue size should be applied all over it, and when thoroughly dry, it should be gone over very lightly with the finest glass paper, just enough to make all smooth without removing any of the stain. Then dust and French polish in the usual way, mixing 1 lb. of the best drop black with every 1 lb. of French polish you apply.

FRYING FISH.—I cannot enter into all the queries I have on this head. Tastes differ, and I do not presume to decide whether it is "best" to fry haddock, plaice, and conger in batter, or flour, or bread crumbs, but I hope my correspondents may be helped by the following hints:—Haddock, plaice, &c., should be filleted or cut into strips before they are fried. This will not be sufficient for conger, which requires to be parboiled before it is fried. It is necessary to have plenty of fresh fat or dripping, or, better still, sweet oil for frying, and this must be made boiling hot in the frying pan before the fish is put into it. For bread-crumbs have ready-made, or plate of grated crumbs and a dish of beaten eggs, and dip the fish according to the quantity of fish to be cooked. First cover the piece of fish by dipping it in the egg, then roll it in the crumbs, and transfer it at once to the boiling oil or fat in the pan. Those who do not care to go to the expense of eggs can pass the fish through flour mixed with pepper and salt, and use a thick batter of flour and water, into which plunge the fish before putting it in the frying pan. Where a very fine batter is needed take the yolks of two eggs, reserving the whites, one tablespoonful of olive oil, four tablespoonfuls cold water, two tablespoonfuls brandy, and add a saltspoonful of salt; smooth with a whisk, and dip the fish in the liquid three or four times, then well up for 9 or 10 minutes, then having whisked the whites of the two eggs into a froth, stir it in lightly, pass the fish through, covering each piece well with the batter, and fry in the boiling oil or fat. "Edith" asks for a recipe for a "fish frying flour," and I give one of the ingredients, and she is obliged to any reader who will send it to me.

WHITE OIL FOR RHEUMATISM, &c.—The best distilled vinegar 1 lb. spirits of turpentine 1 lb. Goulard's extract of lead 1 lb. oil of turpentine 1 lb. drachms, and the yolks of two eggs, well beaten up. First mix the small quantity of turpentine and extract of lead with the eggs, then add the vinegar, and lastly, the larger quantity of turpentine. Shake well together, and when all are amalgamated, it is ready for use.

GINGER BEER TO BE DRAWN FROM THE CASK.—Be sure that your cask is perfectly clean and sound. To 10 gallons of water add 12 lb. of sugar and 6 oz. of unbleached ginger. Let these ingredients boil together for one hour, then put it into the cask with 10 lb. of hops, and according to whether the weather is cold or warm, 3 or 4 table-spoonfuls of yeast. Let it stand open for 3 days, then close the barrel, putting in 10 lb. of isinglass. It will be fit to drink in 4 or 5 days.

MIXING STONE-COLOURED PAINT.—The principal ingredient for ordinary oil paints for painting on wood, house painting, &c., is white lead. It is therefore necessary, if you want your work to stand, that you should get really good white lead. There are a lot of other stuffs, adulterations and mixtures, sold. These are worth little or nothing, and last no time. Get the best white lead, ready ground in oil. The quantity you must regulate ac-

cording to the amount of work you have to do. You will have to dilute the white lead with boiled oil and turpentine, and to add about 10 lb. of patent dryers to every 1 lb. of white lead or to every 1 lb. of the mixed paint, as the case may be. Do not overdo the dryers; paint that is dried too quickly does not last. To stain the white lead to stone colour ochre and burnt umber, and a little turpentine, and work them up smooth in a little oil with a palette knife on a palette or a piece of slate. To mix the white lead, put it in a can, pour a little of the oil and turpentine in about equal quantities over it, stir it, and work it with a stiff stopping brush. When the liquids are thoroughly incorporated with the lead, add the dryers, and bring all to the proper consistency, then take the stain and, adding very little at a time, thoroughly amalgamate all till you get a tint to suit your taste. When this has been done, strain the paint through a piece of canvas, and it is ready for use.

VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

The annual kriegspiel between the East and West of Scotland, which was played on Monday night in the Waterloo Hotel, Edinburgh, the first named (Red) being represented by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the second (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the third (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the fourth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the fifth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the sixth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the seventh (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the eighth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the ninth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the tenth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the eleventh (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the twelfth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the thirteenth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the fourteenth (Blue) by Col. Rankin, 1st Royal Scots, and the fifteenth (Blue) by Col. 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VIEWED ON BOARD THE

AFRICA'S FUTURE.
By the Dunvegan Castle, Rhodes on board, entered on her way home from the had been expected to arrive Docks at mid-day, but, the storm, was delayed. th, where she arrived the afternoon, Mr. Rhodes de- to land, but to proceed to the vessel. Mr. A. Butt, ris (secretary of the Char- and Mr. B. B. Hawkeye (the company) proceeded to Rhodes on board the Princess Royal. This vessel chartered to convey Mr. on the steamer to the docks, special saloon train was an

start immediately for London waited on shore in the watching a glimpse of Mr. Half an hour later a tug arrived at the Dunvegan Castle with that Mr. Rhodes, who had decided whether or not to Plymouth, had at the last settled to proceed in the London. This intelligence was quickly confirmed, and the

Mr. Beit, Dr. Harris, and Klay was conveyed to the pier, they having decided to go to the island in a motor launch, accompanied by a company with Mr. Rhodes, who was to remain on the ship, not leave his cabin while the others were alongside. Among the party were the two Messrs. Rhodes and the two Misses Rhodes.

ex-Premier, writes:—I could Mr. Rhodes on his appar- health, the ruddy fire of the sun on his cheeks giving him a grace of great vitality. "I reason to be well," he re- "I have just come off the here I am always in good it is a place," he added with "in which one is free from ers." "You were pleased reception in the Colony and Town?" I suggested. Mr.

"Of course I was pleased; not help being," he said, "was most unexpected." "People in England have been enough to suggest that the re- were pre-arranged affairs." I "On the contrary, they at spontaneous, and, as I have expected. The receptions and were not arranged with my and in coming down the refused everything of the kind

LANQUET READY FOR ME,
people waiting. If I had
away and refused their hos-
they would have considered
dish, just as you probably
I refused to talk to you after
travelled all the way from
to Madeira and back for that.
So I had to sit down and
afterwards I had to talk. One
noose between two alternatives

matters—either to be told in manufacturing receptions, one is purposely avoiding did not go out of my way to feed and dine, but I could not say a few words to people at railway stations, and express their good wishes in such a manner." "Your speech at Cape created a sensation in England," said Mr. Gladstone, glancing at a great pile of papers on his table—results of the

delivered at Funchal. "But there is a passage in it which was very criticised." "And what is it?" "A reference to the GROWING OF ORCHIDS. I thought to be an attack on the lumberjain." "Orchids?" said the ladies. "Oh, no, I meant not all by that. I said it in a way, and without the slightest intention of referring to or of slighting anyone." "And when will you take us to Africa?" "Just as soon as

Committee will let me. I am not those people who like to hang around London. When I can get away I return directly to Rhodesia. You live in future in Rhodesia?" I cannot say yet. I shall give that part of my time to developing the country up north, but I shall have my seat in the Legislature at Cape." "Is your faith in the future of the north as strong as ever?" I reply. I have always said that the white man's country, and a

lised country, and I believe it is more promising than ever. "What will be your chief return?" "I shall pay on first of all to the development of the railways; they are the thing, and after that the mines. I say anything about the mines, that you know there are some unturned good properties, and the railways get through, the bill have a chance. You can see Charles Metcalfe about the

He knows all about them. all have

RAILWAY INTO BULUWAYO

the end of the year. It is going at the rate of 500 miles a year. It is good work that, isn't it?"

It will be the turn of the country the Zambesi come?" "Oh, you possibly develop everything at but I understand that there are of men going up there this " "Do you consider the of native rebellion now over?"

I believe they know that they are now, and we should have no trouble. They were not prepared the first time, but the realise the fact of our supremacy lost, and the people always them.

MR. RHODES IN LONDON.
Rhodes landed at Tilbury last from the Dunvegan Castle, vessel was expected at 4 in the noon, but was not berthed until 11. Rhodes at once came ashore.

accompanied by Mr. R. Harris, led to town by a special train. The members of the party, who were on the liner at Plymouth, followed by a special train to Fenchurch-st. Kingston-on-Thames yesterday. Turner, 42, labourer, was released on a charge of criminally assaulting Mary Ann Brown, 15. Letters were produced asking the girl for appointments.

Academy, will shortly be pre-
sented with the honorary freedom
of the Painters' Company, and entertained
at a banquet at the company's hall.
The Painters' Company will also
make the President an hon. free-
man of the company.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

WIDE AWAKE

Yesterday ex-P.S. Sergt. Steven Div., who has just retired on a pension after 25 years' service, was presented by the tradesmen of Penge with a purse of gold and a silver-mounted walking stick suitably inscribed.

An inquest was held at Becken on Alice Elizabeth Peters, 21, who was found dead in bed. It was stated that the stomach was perforated by five bullets, and the doctor said the holes were caused by cancer. The cause was due to peritonitis. Verdict—**coronary.**

QUOITS.
C. JOHNSON v. T. WATTS FOR
These players met at the ground
to the Slack Rock, Hornsey, to de-
match of 21 points up at 18 yards
side. Johnson went away from the
won at the finish by 8 points, the score
finish being: Johnson, 31; Watts, 23.

Mr. Gerald Balfour and the
mander-in-Chief were both re-
better last evening.
Last night there were 4,281
patients under treatment in L
The Loyal Saturday Fund
day divided £18,013 17s. amo
institutions.

don't see any one nominated as candidates to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. E. H. Hulse. At the last local election Mr. Hulse defeated Sir W. R. B. (R.) by 217. Both parties were out yesterday, though the weather interfered with electioneering. A fight is expected on Wednesday.

GLAMORGAN, W.—It is reported that Mr. D. Randall (R.) is about to resign in order to accept an important post office at Llandely. R. majority.

FORFARSHIRE.—Nomination to the row; polling, Saturday. Declared Feb. 1. Mr. Ramsay (U.) and



THE POOR MAN'S COAL
In most of the metropolitan districts yesterday an additional discount was made for coal hawked in the poorer districts in carts, the rate being 1s. 4d., but in some 1s. 5d. was charged.

Augustus Warren, 32, caretaker, Leipzig-rd. Board School, Chamberlain-st., was found lying in a pool of blood in a narrow lane behind the school, with his head nearly severed from the body. A large pocket-knife by his side.

FATAL ACCIDENT.
Thomas J. Dellar, 17, of Thorpe rd., Hornsey Rise, in the employ of the Midland R. Co., as a crane crewman, was killed by the side of a crane at St. Pancras Goods Station, on Monday last. He was sensible, with severe injuries to the head and body. He was removed to the Royal Free Hospital, where he was found to be extinct.

Michigan Central, 89; Missouri, Kansas
Texas, 134; Missouri Pacific, 212; New
Lake Erie, 100; Western, 100; New York
Erie, and Western Preference, —; New
Lake Erie, and Western and Mortgage
—; New York Central and Hudson
94; New York and New England, —;
York, Ontario, and Western, 144; No
Pacific, 13; Northern Pacific Preferred
Northwest and Western Preferred, 13;
Missouri, —; Pennsylvania Shares, a
adoption, 524; Philadelphia and Reading
Northern Railway, 94; Southern Railway
ferred, 284; Union Pacific, 74; Waba
Louis, and Pacific Common, 97; Waba
Louis, and Pacific Preferred, 167; Waba
Nileated, 505.

The Institute of Civil Engineers held their 12th anniversary dinner last evening at Westminster Palace Hotel. Mr. A. R. Binnie presided.

Prince Henry and Princess Edna of Battenberg were present yesterday at a performance of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels at St. James's Hall.

SMART MEN AND STYLISH WOMEN
 LIKE KEE STIFF, GLOUSE COLLARS,
 PROXIN, AND CUPID
 BY THE USE OF
 MADAM LANE'S LINES
 YOU can get this Best Without a Polishing Iron
 It gives a naturally and durable finish to
 the article and is used a perfect
 Find 6 stamps in three paravels, and a useful
 Laundry Made good.
LINES GLAZE CO.,
MILBROOK ROAD, EDINBURGH, LONDON, &

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The deaths registered last week in 33 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 19.3 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 10,992,524 persons in the middle of this year.

In London 2,923 births and 1,338 deaths were registered last week.

Allowing for increase of population, the births were 29 above, and the deaths 84 below, the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last 10 years.

During the 4 weeks ending on Saturday, Jan. 16, the death-rate averaged 18.1 per 1,000, being 6.9 per 1,000 below the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the 10 years 1887-96.

The deaths attributed directly to influenza numbered 14, having been 10, 14, and 12 in the preceding 3 weeks.

Different forms of violence caused 59 deaths, concealing all but 2 of which inquests were held.

In Greater London, 3,948 births and 1,939 deaths were registered, corresponding to the annual rates of 33.1 and 16.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

By the death of the Bishop of St. David's, Dr. Bardsley, Bishop of Carlisle, becomes entitled to a seat in the House of Lords.

The Government of Dutch Guiana has granted to the representative of a British syndicate 1,000,000 acres of selected gold lands.

A telegram from Newburgh (N.Y.) reports the death of Mr. Joel Headley, the American historian, at the age of 84.

The Lancashire County Cricket Club will hold its annual meeting in Manchester on Jan. 29. Mr. A. N. Hornby will take the chair.

The Mines Department at Melbourne estimates that the yield of gold in Victoria during the present year will exceed any previous yield for the past 20 years.

Mr. A. E. Newman intends to present numerous specimens of animals shot by him during his recent expedition in East Central Africa to the national collection at South Kensington.

Earl Waldegrave, formerly second Conservative Whip in the House of Lords, will in future act as chief Whip in place of the Earl of Limerick.

Lord Churchill has been elected to the post of principal of King's College, London, was a Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford (1876-1888) and is the editor of several theological works.

Lord Mostyn has provoked a conflict with a number of sheep owners by disputing their right to sheep-dogging on the Great Orme's Head.

The trustees contend that they are simply enjoying what has been a right from time immemorial. Already several sheep have been impounded.

The Mayor of Brighton proposes that £600, the balance of the £1,000 presented by him to the corporation, should be expended on the purchase and erection of a statue of the Queen, in one of the public pleasure grounds, in commemoration of the 60th year of her Majesty's reign.

The funeral of Annie Hine, who was murdered by her sweetheart at Stone, Staffordshire, last week, on what was to have been her wedding day, took place at Stone Cemetery this week.

The streets through which the procession passed were thronged with people.

Lord Wolseley is suffering from a slight attack of jaundice, which prevents his attendance at his ordinary duties at the War Office, and is considered likely to confine him to his house for some days to come.

The latest accounts showed a slight improvement.

Owing to the large number of Jews who are without accommodation for worship in the East-end of London, some wealthy South African Jews have determined to build a new synagogue in commemoration of the many benefits the Jews have received during the Queen's 60 years' reign.

The cruiser Aurora broke down at Plymouth as she was about to begin her trials after being refitted. Owing to her steering gear giving way she nearly ran on a sand bar and then drifted towards the training ship Impregnable. Two tug boats went to her assistance and brought her back to her moorings.

The Hon. J. R. Innes has been the recipient of a handsome service of silver plate from the Reform prisoners for the occasion of the Reform Bill at Frinton, and a large and valuable one in which he guided the amnesty movement to so successful an issue. The presentation was made at Cape Town by Col. Rhodes.

Mr. Churchwarden J. Williams, J.P., a member of the Paddington Vestry, has given notice of his intention to move at the next meeting of that body the appointment of a special committee "to consider and report upon the question of erecting a town hall for Paddington, such report to embrace information, if necessary, as to other sites, with estimate as to probable cost."

Two sad accidents occurred at Johannesburg on Christmas Day. In one case a party was out sailing on Florida Lake when their boat capsized, and 3 Italians were drowned.

The other was caused by the bursting of the New Promenade Dam, the water from which swept everything before it, including the cottage of Mr. Crooke, the manager, and his family.

Mr. Crooke was rescued, but 6 children were drowned.

An anonymous donor having arranged to present 60 vines (one for each year) to 60 of the county residents of the hamlet of Hextable, Kent, has received a letter from the private secretary to the Prince of Wales informing him that H.R.H. desires to thank the donor for informing him of the manner in which it is proposed to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Queen's reign in the donor's parish, and to say that H.R.H. thinks the idea is an excellent one, and that he feels sure that the pre-

sents cannot fail to be much appreciated by the inhabitants.

The Government collection for the refugee Armenians has been an utter failure throughout 8. Russia.

Mme. Meibach, with influenza, and all her engagements have been cancelled.

Lord Penrhyn's quarries were again opened this week to receive men willing to work, but none presented themselves.

Prof. Virchow's friends are making arrangements to celebrate the jubilee of his connection with the Berlin University.

The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been 13.1, 20.8, and 18.5 in the preceding 3 weeks, further fell last week to 18.0.

Tuesday was the anniversary of the deaths of David Garrick and John Howard. The first took place in 1779, and the latter in 1790.

The judge of the Native Court of Appeal at Cairo will most probably be an Englishman, and certainly not a Belg.

Eleven months of the muzzling order in the City has resulted in 337 persons being fined, the penalties amounting in all to £214 3s. 6d.

The Queen has sent gifts of presents to the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, Victoria Park, and to the University College Hospital.

At Liverpool Francis A. Kirke, a sub-postmaster, was remanded on a charge of forging a document for the payment of £122 in February last year.

A telegram from Bushire reports that a severe earthquake occurred at the island of Kishm, in the Persian Gulf, on Jan. 11, causing enormous loss of life.

Canon Panchard, vicar of Christ Church, Luton, has been offered and declined the bishopric of Antigua.

At the third time the reverend gentleman has said "Nolo episcopatu."

Thomas Seddon, a cripple, committed suicide at Liverpool by hanging himself from his crutch, which he placed over the top of a door, afterwards fastening 2 handkerchiefs to it.

At the meeting of Kingston-on-Thames Town Council Lord Thring was unanimously elected High Steward of the borough, in the place of the late Mr. B. W. Currie.

The regalia of the Mayor of Kidderminster and other members of the Freeman's lodge in Kidderminster, were destroyed by fire which broke out at the Masonic club in the town.

The funeral of Sir T. Grove took place at Berwick St. John, Wilt., in the churchyard of the parish. The Rev. A. Kemble, the rector, and Canon Short officiated.

Brigade-Surg. Lieut.-Col. J. Annot, Army Medical Staff, who served in the Abyssinian and Afghan campaigns, has been awarded a distinguished service reward of £100 per annum.

The Queen has appointed Mr. H. L. Thompson (Administrator of Saint Vincent), to administer the Government of the Windward Islands in the event of the absence, &c., of the governor.

A window to the memory of the late Mr. A. Macmillan, publisher, and his son, the late Mr. M. K. Macmillan, has been placed in the parish church at Bramshott, where the family resided.

Mr. C. J. Thomas, of Bishopsmead and Blackheath, has been appointed chairman of the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland-road, in the place of the late Mr. J. Fry, who held that position for nearly 30 years.

The session of the Swedish Riksdag has been opened in Stockholm by the King in person. The Budget shows an increase in expenditure of 7,500,000 kroner, chiefly in the military and naval estimates.

Tuesday being the birthday of the Sultan of Turkey, the Dragomans of the various Embassies and Legations in Constantinople repaired as usual to Yildiz Kiosk to congratulate him. In the evening the city was illuminated.

The Local Government Board has sanctioned the borrowing of £10,000 by the Richmond Town Council for the purpose of perfecting the water supply to the town. The loan comprises £17,764 for machinery, and £2,236 for new mains, &c.

A joint committee of the Legal and Works Committee of the Paddington Vestry has recommended the latter to approve the projected West Suburban Railway, a scheme for constructing an overhead electric railway from Paddington to Willesden.

Mr. Deputy Morrison, one of the originators of the Guildhall School of Music, of which he laid the foundation stone, has again, after an interval of 11 years, been again elected chairman of the Music Committee of the Corporation.

The work of obtaining signatures for the international petition in favour of arbitration is now practically complete, and the document will be presented to the 32 chief Governments of the world some time during the next 2 or 3 months.

M. Vassilevski, President of the Russian State Railways Administration, has died from the wounds inflicted upon him on the 17th ult. by a subordinate official, named Zacharov, who, after firing at his chief, committed suicide.

A marriage has been arranged, and will take place at Sydney next April, between Miss A. Ferguson, 2nd Lieut. Guards, son of the late Col. J. S. Ferguson, and the Hon. Margaret Brand, eldest daughter of Viscount Hampden, Governor of N.S. Wales.

The Queen has granted to Mr. P. Eshworth authority to wear the insignia of the Imperial Order of the Medjidieh of Egypt has conferred upon him in recognition of his services as Director of Customs at Alexandria.

At Hampstead a movement is being set on foot to celebrate the completion of the 60th year of her Majesty's reign by special combined efforts on a large scale to aid the North London Hospital for Consumption, the Hampstead Hospital, and the Hampstead Nursing Association.

At Rotherhithe Vestry, the clerk read a letter from Maj.-Gen. Sir F. W. de Winton, stating that owing to the numerous engagements already made for the coming season, the Duke and Duchess of York find it impossible to accept the invitation to visit Rotherhithe to open the new Town Hall.

The Mission to Seamen proposes to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen among the men of our great mercantile marine in the 68 ports, at home and abroad, where the agency has mission stations. There will be fitting demonstrations of sailors and

fishermen, followed by services of thanksgiving.

Mr. J. Bound, M.P., has accepted a seat on the board of the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway Co.

Mr. E. Rothchild, son of Baron G. Rothchild, has been knocked down and run over by a cab in Paris.

The American Senate has confirmed the appointment of Mr. Francis as Minister of the Interior.

A caravan has arrived at St. Petersburg with 610 pounds of gold from Siberia for the Imperial Mint.

A telegram from Boston announces that ex-Governor Long has accepted the portfolio of the Navy in Mr. McKinley's Cabinet.

Sir A. Sullivan's new national ballet is now so far advanced that it has been placed in partial rehearsal at the Alhambra.

Two young men named Nelson and McGarry were drowned while skating in a pond at Old Park Print Works, near Belfast.

A Liverpool carter named William Carson sustained fatal injuries in the neighbourhood of Commercial-road, and Sandhills-lane owing to his horse bolting.

A West Riding Police Court, in future, all witnesses wishing to affirm in the Scotch manner when being sworn, instead of kissing the Testament, will be allowed to do so.

Mr. A. Newton, as a practising solicitor at Marlborough-st., welcomed Mr. De Kuten to the magistracy, and that court in appropriate terms. Mr. De Kuten replied.

A meeting of the Loriners' Co. of which Sir A. Harris was master at the time of his death, was held this week, when Mr. W. H. Harris, C.M.G., was formally installed as master.

A young man named James Badley, a stranger, was in the neighbourhood, was seen by a number of others on Smith's Pool, at Fenton, Staffordshire, when the ice broke and he was drowned.

Children playing with fire shortly before noon caused an outbreak at 894, Cannon-st.-rd. The flames were extinguished by the fire engine, which arrived at the first floor, but Annie Carroll, a little child of 5, was burned. She is now dead.

The Wimbledon Technical Committee has resolved that the fee for cookery and sick-nursing given at the Hubert-road, Technical Institute be at the rate of 1d. a lesson, and that it be payable in two instalments.

The Earl of Winchester, who is suffering from the effects of overwork, has been ordered by Sir W. Broadbent to take a few weeks' entire rest, and has left England with Lady Winchelsea for the Riviera.

It is understood that the question of Church Patronage Bills will be fully discussed by the House of Commons, and that the Archbishop will then announce his own decision in the matter.

The new Chancery judge, Justice Byrne, took his seat in court for the first time this week. There was a crowded bar, with the Attorney-General (Sir L. Webster) at its head, to greet him.

A death is announced of Mr. W. Tipping, who for several years sat in Parliament as Conservative member for Stockport. He retired from Parliament in 1886. For a considerable time he was a director of the L. and N.W.R.

The death of a married woman named Sarah Hargreaves, who had been missing since Friday, Jan. 15, was this week recovered from a pond at Beaufort, Monmouthshire, her child, 3 months old, being clasped tightly to her breast.

In his approaching journey through Abyssinia, Prince Henri d'Orleans will endeavour to penetrate into the very heart of the empire, which is now being visited by the Prince de Lucigne, the Comte de Guinec, M. de Ponceau, the well-known big game hunter, and an engineer not yet selected.

The death is announced of Mr. H. C. Fulford, who was elected M.P. for Lichfield two years ago, but was unseated on petition. The night before he died he was held during the campaign affected his lungs, and he went to Egypt, but rapid consumption set in, and he died at Cairo.

Mandell's "Susanna," which has not been performed in London since it was revived by the late West Hill at the Alexandra Palace about 20 years ago, has been placed in rehearsal by the Handel Society, who have already revived "Hercules" and other unfamiliar oratorios of the great master.

As a parcel porter named William Hardie was stepping off the platform at Queen-st. Station, Glasgow, he was caught by the engine of a passenger train. He was dragged along between the wheels, and broke his back for a distance of between 40 and 50 yards before the engine could be stopped. When extricated he was dead.

H.M.S. second-class cruiser Iphigenia, which was built at Glasgow by contract in 1891-92, under the Naval Defence Act, was commissioned at Portsmouth this week by Capt. H. N. Dudding, a service of the China Station, where she will relieve her sister cruiser, Eolus (Capt. R. L. Groom), who returns to England to pay off.

Samuel Kay, coalheaver, was committed for trial at Bury charged, upon his own confession, with murdering Elizabeth Eatough, his paramour, whose body was found at a house near Bury. Witness spoke to seeing Eatough and Kay together at Bury, Heywood, and Radcliffe. They had been in the workshop for about 7 weeks.

A Hornmouth postman named Alfred Poldea has been sent for trial charged with detaining and secreting certain letters during Christmas week. Evidence was given to the effect that prisoner hid one bag of letters in the garages of an unoccupied house, and left a second bag containing several hundred letters at another house for three days. He pleaded guilty, and said drink was his only excuse.

At a meeting of the Court of Aldermen at the Guildhall, a letter was read from Mr. G. Tyler, stating that he wished to resign his position as an alderman, as considerable time must elapse before he could resume his duties. It was decided that consideration of the letter be deferred, and that in the meantime the Lord Mayor should write to Mr. George.

At Marlborough-st., Charles Richter, musician, of Peter-st., W., was charged with assaulting Mr. and Mrs. Charles Richter, who adopted son he is. The assault on Mrs. Richter was the most brutal character, prisoner having struck her in the face with his fist, and kicked her. Mrs. Richter was covered from head to foot in blood, and the room in which the

assault was committed had blood all over it. Remanded.

The annual tobacco trade exhibition was held at the Agricultural Hall from May 8 to 15.

The annual children's fancy dress ball, given at the Mansion House, took place this week. Among the guests invited by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress were Prince and Princess Edward of Saxe-Weimar.

The Bishop of Sodor and Man has presided at the examining chapel, the Rev. G. A. S. Schneider, M.A., vice-principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge, and formerly professor of theology in Trinity College, Toronto, to the vicarage of German, Isle of Man.

Mr. Stewart, the Liverpool stipendiary magistrate, stated that he had been elected through himself on behalf of the widow and children of the rigger Finegan, who contracted a fatal illness in rescuing a man who had fallen into the water, amounted to £177 10s. 1d.

A number of the leading rich men in New York, including Mr. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Astor, Mr. Rockefeller, Mr. Gould, and Mr. Seligman, together with several ladies, are forming a society to erect better tenement houses for the poor, after the example of London.

A Whitechapel sanitary inspector, who applied at Worship-st., Court for an order compelling a cask of apples to be removed from a shop, stated that the amount of bad fruit and food vendued among the Jewish poor in the East-end of London was a constant source of public danger.

At Sheffield Quarter Sessions, Samuel Ryecroft, insurance agent, was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour for obtaining money by fraud from James Badley, a stranger, who was in the neighbourhood, was seen by a number of others on Smith's Pool, at Fenton, Staffordshire, when the ice broke and he was drowned.

A story of a bullock of peculiar appetite comes from Biddenden, in Kent. A farmer in that parish had a beast which lost flesh in an extraordinary fashion. It was therefore killed, and among the contents of the stomach was found a quantity of shot and nails and a skewer.

Babouin and Ballou, the 2 chimpanzees given to the Jardin des Plantes, at Paris, 8 months ago, by Dr. Macleod, are in danger of death. The door of their house was left open, and the female caught cold, which developed into pneumonia. The male contracted the disease 2 days later.

The body of a coal merchant named Roberts, living in Bedford, has been found in the River Ouse. It is rumoured that on the previous day he made a bet that he could swallow a box of pills, and that he won the bet, as he seems to be sound and ground for this story, as he appeared to be very unwell.

There was a very interesting discussion at the Playgoers' Club, London, this week on "Organised Opposition—Does it Exist?" A variety of opinions were expressed, many of them unfavourable to theatre managers, and a few in favour of introducing claque, "bulker," and policeman.

The Board of Trade inquiry at Greenock into the collision near Dunoon on the steamers Clumpson and Caledonia, when the Clumpson was sunk, resulted in a finding that the collision was due to the unseamanlike conduct of the Clumpson's captain, the suspending of Capt. Bell's certificate for 3 months.

Bulawayo society is rejoicing just now over the highly satisfactory fact that all the common people with no assured means of support have departed for fresh fields and pastures new, and left the native government officials and others with regular salaries—in practical possession of the settlement.

Two new boys in the employ of Messrs. Smith and Son at Hampstead Heath Station were burning rubbish on the line near the mouth of the tunnel when a City train coming out of the tunnel struck them, and killed them. Edwin Duffield, a little fellow of 11, and inflected severe injury to his skull.

The town of Louviers, in France, was thrown into a panic by the rushing through the streets of a band of 11 wild boys. The animals came from the River Eure, two of them entered houses and were shot, whereupon the remainder of the band took to flight.

The quinquennial valuation of the Ancient Order of Foresters shows that the amount of sickness experienced during the 5 years was 161 per cent. The table of payment was based, the total payments being £2,533,132, or £239,105 in excess of the expected amount.

Lieut. Ash, Middlesex Regt., was fined £8 and costs, at Brentford, for not having his fox-terrier properly muzzled. It was stated that one day he was hunting the terrier towards the throat of a cat belonging to Mr. Alexander Ireland, while in another case it grabbed the cat at the bar of an hotel, the cat being so badly hurt that it had to be destroyed.

At Blackburn, David Grimshaw, farmer, Whitebirk, was fined £3 and costs, at a magistrates' court, for not having his fox-terrier properly muzzled. It was stated that one day he was hunting the terrier towards the throat of a cat belonging to Mr. Alexander Ireland, while in another case it grabbed the cat at the bar of an hotel, the cat being so badly hurt that it had to be destroyed.

The L. ddesdale Hunt had a most remarkable finish to their meet at Linholme. They ran a fox to the old ruin of Linholme, near the village of Langholm. The fox made a wonderful ascent of a smooth and perpendicular chimney, fully 20ft. high, and crouched on the top of the wall. He was eventually discovered and killed.

At Brynmawr (Breconshire), Henry Painter, 19, and Philip Painter, 17, were sentenced to 3 weeks' hard labour for stealing 2 cash-boxes, containing money, from a grocer's shop; and Henry Walker and William Watkins, 2 lads of 17, who had given wrong addresses, were committed for a month. The lads belong to Kenilworth, whence they set out on tramp on New Year Day.

An old retired farmer named John Binks, living at Bronch, Sowerby, Westmoreland, quarrelled with his wife in bed, and on her coming downstairs the dispute was renewed. Binks hurled a missile at his wife's head, which struck her in the face, injuring her severely. In the heat of his passion Binks was seized with a stroke of paralysis, which rendered him unconscious, and from which he never recovered. He died in 2 days.

Mr. Collins has notified to the executors of the late Sir Augustus Harris that he will exercise the "option" left to him, and take over the lease of Drury Lane Theatre from Lady Day next. Mr. Collins, who is at the head of a syndicate formed to run the house, will accordingly take over Drury Lane for the remainder of the term of about 4 years, producing an

rolling into the gutter, ran away, and has not since been discovered.

The Alexandra Palace is again advertised as to let, there apparently being some hope that it may be reopened this season.

Edward Childs, a workman upon the new wing of the Alhambra Theatre, fell 60ft. from the top scaffold, and was killed.

An outbreak of rabies has occurred at St. Neots, and the Bedfordshire C.C. has issued an order for all dogs to be muzzled.

The French Chamber has voted 15,000fr. for the State funeral of M. Roussieu, the late governor of Indo-China.

A call of 1s. 3d. in the pound is to be made upon the guarantors of the Card-f Exhibition, the guarantee fund of which amounted to £200,000.

According to advices received at San Francisco from the Fiji Islands, Sir J. Thurston, the governor, is seriously ill, his condition being considered critical.

An Englishman was arrested in the Casino at Monte Carlo for attempting to steal from Sir S. Hogg a pocket book containing a large sum of money.

M. E. de Lisboa, First Secretary of the Brazilian Legation in London, has been appointed Minister to Bolivia, and is being transferred from Bolivia to Monte Video.

Mr. F. G. Painter, of Tribe, Clarke, Painter, and Co., was this week unanimously elected to the Common Council for Coleman-st. Ward in the room of the late Deputy Steward.

Alexandra Darling, 11, residing at Ratray, Blairgowrie, was killed by falling from an elevator at the works at which she was employed as a half-timer.

A little Glasgow boy of 8, named William Sproul, fell from his father's lorry and the rear hind wheel passed over his body. He died in the infirmary, whether he had been carried by his father.

A return of public elementary schools, which have been warned by the Education Department during the last quarter of 1896, was issued as a Parliamentary paper. It includes the names of 21 schools.

Herbert Stephen White, a basket-maker, has been found drowned at Emouth Dock. The man suffered from a defective sight, and it is supposed that the wharf being frosty, he slipped into the water.

Col. Waters, the British Military Attaché, who is travelling through Siberia to Vladivostok, has left Irkutsk for Khabarovsk. He is still suffering from pains in the back, due to his recent accident on the railway.

Both the Nawab Bahawalpur and the Maharajah of Bhurpur have commenced celebrating her Majesty's longest reign by each sending a donation of 1,000 rupees in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children.

James Robb was killed while at work at Watson's Colliery, Motherwell. Robb was putting in a scissor when he fell away from the scissor, and was buried underneath, and before he could be extricated life was extinct.

Much satisfaction is expressed throughout the Prisons Service at the decision of the Commissioners of Prisons to superannuate many of the old officers of all ranks, thereby giving an impetus to the promotion of many deserving officers.

An impression prevails in some quarters that the advance from Dongola to Khartoum will begin in March, but it is stated on good authority that it will not be ventured upon till June or July. The War Office is busy expediting the arrangements.

Who was waiting for a train a young Edinburgh man named Angus McCaskell and a comrade began some horse-play. McCaskell, happening to step back as a goods train was passing through the station northwards, was thrown down upon the line. He died shortly after.

Some scaffolding in Sanchiehall, Glasgow, fell and 4 labourers—John Macintyre, John Docherty, Alexander Macdonald, and Thomas Fitts—were seriously hurt. The injuries consisted of broken limbs and fractured skulls, and all 4 men had to be removed to the infirmary.

The body of a freeman named John Gleig was found on the top of the boiler of the steamship Cambria, lying at Leith. Dalglish, it is supposed, had attempted to crawl between the boiler and the deck from the stoke-hole to the engine-room, and had been overcome by the heat.

At Sunderland, John Bainbridge, a cartman, was committed for trial on a charge of murder. The death of John Freeman, a relative, in a quarrel which occurred in prisoner's house on Boxing Day. It was alleged that the dispute originated through Bainbridge insulting deceased's wife.

The proposition of the Royal Agricultural Society to commemorate the longest reign by asking its 10,000 or so members to contribute to the portraits of the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of York, is not likely, it is stated, to meet with unanimous assent.

The L. ddesdale Hunt had a most remarkable finish to their meet at Linholme. They ran a fox to the old ruin of Linholme, near the village of Langholm. The fox made a wonderful ascent of a smooth and perpendicular chimney, fully 20ft. high, and crouched on the top of the wall. He was eventually discovered and killed.

At Brynmawr (Breconshire), Henry Painter, 19, and Philip Painter, 17, were sentenced to 3 weeks' hard labour for stealing 2 cash-boxes, containing money, from a grocer's shop; and Henry Walker and William Watkins, 2 lads of 17, who had given wrong addresses, were committed for a month. The lads belong to Kenilworth, whence they set out on tramp on New Year Day.

An old retired farmer named John Binks, living at Bronch, Sowerby, Westmoreland, quarrelled with his wife in bed, and on her coming downstairs the dispute was renewed. Binks hurled a missile at his wife's head, which struck her in the face, injuring her severely. In the heat of his passion Binks was seized with a stroke of paralysis, which rendered him unconscious, and from which he never recovered. He died in 2 days.

Mr. Collins has notified to the executors of the late Sir Augustus Harris that he will exercise the "option" left to him, and take over the lease of Drury Lane Theatre from Lady Day next. Mr. Collins, who is at the head of a syndicate formed to run the house, will accordingly take over Drury Lane for the remainder of the term of about 4 years, producing an

entertainment on the Harris lines and a Christmas pantomime.

Mr. D. Burnett has been elected Chief Commoner of the Corporation of London.

The trustees of the David Lewis (Liverpool) Fund have decided to give another £20,000 towards the rebuilding of the Liverpool Northern Hospital, thus raising their generous gift to £200,000.

The Home Secretary has released from Winchester Prison George Heron, a seaman sent to this country by the Las Palmas Consul to serve 4 months' imprisonment for insubordination.

BLOOMSBURY BURGERS.

SMART CAPTURE BY THE POLICE.

PRISONER'S STATEMENT.

At Bow-st., Carl Miller, 25, and Joseph Kising, 21, were charged with burglary, housebreaking, and assault. P.C. 450 D stated that at 4 a.m. he examined the area railings of No. 11, Bedford-sq. He saw the "private mark" which had been placed there at about 11 o'clock had been disturbed. On further examining he found fresh footprints. He concealed himself under a wall near the railings. After waiting and watching for 20 minutes he saw prisoner Kising look over the wall. Witness attempted to go down the steps, but Kising, however, gave way, and witness had a drop of about 14 ft. He was not hurt, and saw prisoners run down the garden of No. 11, and get over a wall at the other end. They then disappeared. Witness found 2 umbrellas and a leather bag bearing the address, 6, Montague-place. He and the other officer went to 6, Montague-place, and found that the dining-room window there had been forced open. The bag and umbrellas had been stolen from Montague-place. At half-past 6 o'clock witness

HEARD A WHISTLE BLOWN.

In Bedford-sq., and found the 2 prisoners being held by P.C. 215 D. Witness relieved his brother officer of one of the captives, and the other officer went to the Tottenham Court-road Police Station. Ellen McCarthy, cook to Mr. G. Willoughby, 4, Bedford-sq., stated that at about half-past 6 she was in the kitchen when prisoner Kising entered, and kneeling down, put his hands together in an imploring manner. She screamed, and he put his hands over his head and wept. She struggled, and went to wake the butler. Whilst she was doing that the other prisoner came in, but said nothing. They then disappeared. Kising hurt her very much when he pressed his hand over her mouth.

PRISONER'S STATEMENT.

At the police station prisoner Kising made the following statement, which he afterwards signed: "I want to say there must be some mistake about these overcoats, because we only took 3. When the old lady saw us she was very frightened, and commenced crying. In desperation, fell on my knees, and asked her not to cry. As she would not stop, I got up, and put my hand over my mouth, and did not hurt her, or intend to do so. With regard to breaking into 4, Bedford-sq., we did it with the intention of saving ourselves."—Prisoners, who declined to say where they lived, were remanded for inquiries.

ORDER OF FORESTERS.

The complete valuation returns of the Ancient Order of Foresters—the largest of our friendly societies—compiled by Mr. S. Hudson, of Leicester, have just been issued by the Executive Council of the Order. The valuation returns are for 2,898 courts, with a membership of 634,433, which shows an increase of 10,000 members in the last year. The most prominent fact in the returns, and one which has seriously affected the financial position, is the excess in the payments paid for sickness over the expectation. The actual payments paid for sickness in the 5 years are £2,133,171, against an expectation of £2,174,027, an excess of £40,856, a little over 1 per cent. more than was considered sufficient for normal risks. The excess is spread over the whole of the United Kingdom and throughout the valuation period. Another curious fact stands out, which Mr. Hudson regards as altogether inexplicable. Mr. Hudson says, it is impossible to reconcile perfectly heavy sickness with a low death rate, and yet this is just what has happened—37,327 of our members were expected during the 5 years to die, but the actual number was 34,716, a difference of 2,612 in favour of the society. The

VALUATION BALANCE SHEET.

shows total liabilities amounting to £25,040,413, and total assets of £21,615,708, leaving a deficiency of £2,424,705. It must be borne in mind that the deficiency is actual on the basis of the returns of the whole of the 634,433 members. The rate of solvency is 17s. 7d. in the pound, as compared with 17s. 3d. at the previous valuation. The valuer says he sees "strong reasons for satisfaction in the present and for sanguine hopes for the future, and in advance of 8d. in the pound, it itself no mean accomplishment, for on a liability of £25,000,000 it means a betterment of upwards of £250,000. But the Order has done much more than this, although it may not be quite so evident. No one would think of meeting the deficit by a vessel by the distance actually covered in a given time it was known that she had been against a swift current and a strong head wind, but in any estimate of her powers allowance would be made for both; so with the Order. The actual distance run may be represented by the actual

GAIN OF £250,000.

or the improvement in the degree of solvency of 8d. in the pound. But the extra expenditure of £357,105 for sick claims should be taken into account, beside which the loss of interest on the former declared deficit, amounting at 3 per cent. to £376,265, must also be considered. These 2 factors may be very fittingly described as the adverse wind and tide which the Order had to meet and overcome before any progress could be made, and if this side of the matter be given due consideration, the result will be considered as an insignificant sum. The valuation results disclosed will make it imperative on the Executive Council to see that deficiency courts put forward every effort to improve their financial position.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

MOURNING FOR PRINCE HENRY OF BATTENBERG.

A memorial service in commemoration of the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg was held this week at Whipping Church, Isle of Wight, where the remains are interred. The memorial chapel containing the sarcophagus is unfinished, and will remain so for some months. A recently decorated brass altar, executed by Mr. Gilbert, R.A., is placed in position between the arches of the chapel next to the altar, but is not completed. The chapel was tastefully decorated. Her Majesty and family occupied seats in the Memorial Chapel. There was a full congregation, among those present being Col. Cranford and officers of the Isle of Wight Garrison, and the Rev. C. Smith, rector of Whippingham, officiated, and Sir W. Parratt presided at the organ, the choral part of the service being sung by the village choir. A number of splendid wreaths were placed in the church, including tributes from the Queen, the German Emperor, and from Princess Beatrice and her children, that from the princess being of lilacs of the valley, and bearing the inscription, "A last token of love and massive grief broken-heartedness from Prince Francis Joseph was inscribed, 'To dear Liko from his loving brother Francis Joseph.'"

FIGHTING OVER A GRAVE.

The case of Vallancey v. Fletcher was heard in the Divisional Court, appellant being Rev. John Vallancey, perpetual curate of Roston, Derbyshire. A Mrs. V. had been buried in the churchyard. Above the grave was placed a turf mound. Maria Wright, a sister of the deceased, attended to the grave, but the curate sent to her father threatening to prosecute them for trespass. In 1893 the curate brought an action against Mrs. Wright, she having trimmed the grass above her sister's grave. The judgment, however, was against him. Last June the curate ordered his sexton to remove the mound. Maria Wright came into the churchyard, and appellant, on her protesting, ordered her to go home. The sexton said he would "have up every bone."

Two men entered the church, and the sexton to go on with his work, saying he would protect him. The sexton repeated the expression, and also said if the lady would wait a minute or two she might perhaps "be able to see her." Maria Wright's mother came up and struck the sexton with an umbrella. The second curate, however, was against him. Last June the curate ordered his sexton to remove the mound. Maria Wright came into the churchyard, and appellant, on her protesting, ordered her to go home. The sexton said he would "have up every bone."

ON A TRAMCAR.

Edward Thomas Hilton, bricklayer, of Rotherhithe, was charged at Southwark with assaulting a female passenger on a tramcar. The second curate, however, was against him. Last June the curate ordered his sexton to remove the mound. Maria Wright came into the churchyard, and appellant, on her protesting, ordered her to go home. The sexton said he would "have up every bone."

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.—The first 3 lines average 10 words each line after a word. Second 4 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Third 5 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fourth 6 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifth 7 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixth 8 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventh 9 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighth 10 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninth 11 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Tenth 12 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eleventh 13 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twelfth 14 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirteenth 15 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fourteenth 16 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifteenth 17 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixteenth 18 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventeenth 19 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighteenth 20 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Nineteenth 21 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twentieth 22 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-first 23 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-second 24 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-third 25 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-fourth 26 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-fifth 27 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-sixth 28 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-seventh 29 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-eighth 30 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Twenty-ninth 31 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirtieth 32 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-first 33 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-second 34 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-third 35 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-fourth 36 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-fifth 37 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-sixth 38 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-seventh 39 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-eighth 40 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Thirty-ninth 41 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fortieth 42 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Forty-first 43 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Forty-second 44 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Forty-third 45 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Forty-fourth 46 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Forty-fifth 47 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Forty-sixth 48 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Forty-seventh 49 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fiftieth 50 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-first 51 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-second 52 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-third 53 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-fourth 54 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-fifth 55 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-sixth 56 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-seventh 57 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-eighth 58 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Fifty-ninth 59 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixtieth 60 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-first 61 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-second 62 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-third 63 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-fourth 64 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-fifth 65 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-sixth 66 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-seventh 67 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-eighth 68 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Sixty-ninth 69 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventieth 70 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-first 71 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-second 72 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-third 73 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-fourth 74 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-fifth 75 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-sixth 76 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-seventh 77 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-eighth 78 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Seventy-ninth 79 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eightieth 80 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-first 81 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-second 82 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-third 83 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-fourth 84 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-fifth 85 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-sixth 86 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-seventh 87 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-eighth 88 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Eighty-ninth 89 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninetieth 90 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-first 91 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-second 92 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-third 93 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-fourth 94 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-fifth 95 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-sixth 96 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-seventh 97 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-eighth 98 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. Ninety-ninth 99 lines under 2s. per line after 3d. One hundred 100 lines under 2s. per line after 3d.

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A LARK REVEALED.

UNCLAIMED MONEY DUE TO BROOKS.

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WIDOW, aged 43, very young and attractive.

MARRIAGE—A widow, aged 43, with 3 children.

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